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## ECA Update: November 2, 2016

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[DOE, DHEC reach agreement on SRS liquid waste](#)

### ECA October Bulletin Now Available

*ECA Staff*

November 2, 2016

ECA has released the [October 2016 Bulletin](#)--a monthly publication that reviews and explains the major stories, events and reports from across the DOE complex.

Articles in the issue include:

- ECA Submits Comments on DOE's Consent-Based Siting Draft Report
- The Presidential Transition
- Russia Withdraws from Plutonium Disposal Treaty; MOX Fate Uncertain
- WIPP Experiences Multiple Rock Falls
- NNSA Confronting Budget Challenges

### UPCOMING EVENTS

November 2016

9

DOE-EM Site Specific  
Advisory Board  
Meeting in Las Vegas,  
NV

[More info here](#)

November 2016

9

DOE-EM Site Specific  
Advisory Board  
Meeting in  
Oak Ridge, TN

The October 2016 Bulletin also provides an update on DOE contracting and a calendar of all upcoming ECA events.

Questions, comments, or suggestions for future Bulletins can be sent to ECA Program Manager Megan Casper at [meganc@energyca.org](mailto:meganc@energyca.org).

[>>Visit ECA's Bulletin archive](#)

## DOE, DHEC reach agreement on SRS liquid waste

*The Augusta Chronicle*

November 1, 2016



An agreement has been reached on treating more than 36 million gallons of radioactive and toxic liquid waste stored in aging Savannah River Site tanks.

The U.S. Department of Energy and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control announced the agreement Tuesday, according to a DOE news release. Under the agreement, SRS will process the liquid waste starting this year through 2022 to mitigate the delay in startup of the Salt Waste Processing Facility.

"DHEC's responsibility is to protect the environment and public health in South Carolina, and this agreement furthers our goal of maximized waste treatment on a timely schedule to lower the risk for the state," said DHEC Director Catherine Heigel. "We appreciate the DOE working with us to make important progress toward ensuring the long-term safety and health of South Carolinians."

In June, DOE completed construction of the processing facility, which will significantly increase processing rates in the effort to empty and close 43 remaining radioactive liquid waste tanks at SRS, the release stated. To date, DOE has closed eight High Level Waste tanks at SRS.

[More info here](#)

November 2016

14-15

DOE-EM Site Specific  
Advisory Board  
Meeting in  
Aiken, SC

[More info here](#)

November 2016

16

INVITATION ONLY  
Annual ECA Board  
Meeting and  
Elections in New  
Orleans, LA

November 2016

16

INVITATION ONLY

DOE agreed to a new timeline for treating the waste at the processing facility and committed to additional technological investments rather than litigate over penalties for missed deadlines, the DOE news release stated. The agreement paves the way for large-scale treatment to move forward without the delay and expense of litigation, furthering progress on tank closure and risk reduction.

"This agreement underscores our continued commitment to furthering the Department of Energy's environmental cleanup mission at Savannah River Site and reaffirms our good working relationship with South Carolina," said Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz. "We look forward to our ongoing collaborative work with South Carolina to identify and execute beneficial near-term and long-term environmental solutions in the state, advance new environmental science and technology at the Savannah River National Laboratory, and carry-out critical nuclear security missions."

[>>Continue reading](#)

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## **Consent-Based Siting and Nuclear Waste Management Priorities Meeting in New Orleans, LA**

**November 2016**

**16-18**

**INVITATION ONLY  
2016  
Intergovernmental  
Meeting with DOE in  
New Orleans, LA**

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**February 2017**

**23-24**

**INVITATION ONLY  
ECA Peer Exchange in  
Washington, DC**

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**March 2017**

**5-9**

**Waste Management  
Conference in  
Phoenix, AZ**

[More info here](#)

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